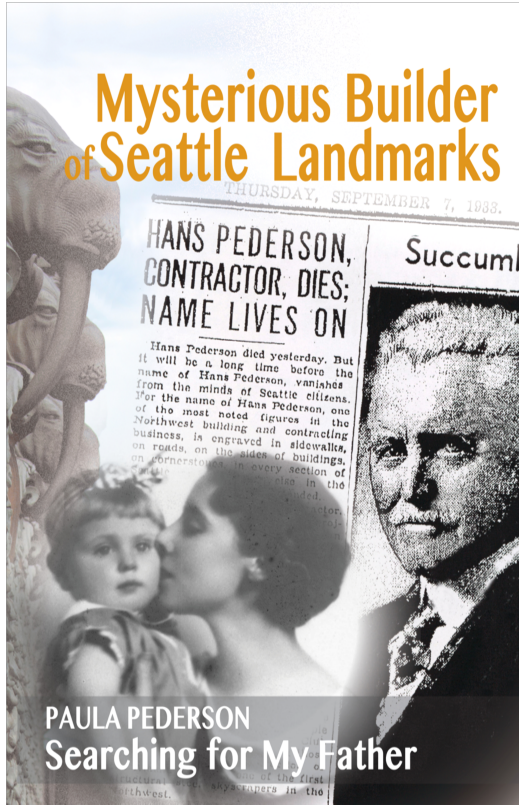


What People Say



Paula Pederson's discoveries about her father Hans have filled an important gap in regional architectural history

knowledge by revealing her father's many accomplishments in the Pacific Northwest. The publication provides a partial list of a remarkable range and variety of buildings and infrastructure projects that he undertook during a long and successful career—commerce and institutions, hotels, theaters, apartments, schools, bridges and piers. Many of them are still standing, and that reflects on the knowledge and management skills of this prolific contractor.

LARRY KREISMAN,
Program Director, Historic Seattle

"...like a long, newsy letter from a friend...precisely what makes this book so charming and exceptional, and such an addictive read."

Paula Pederson recounts her exhaustive search for the father she never knew in a winding, evocative first-person narrative told "in the moment" as her journey unfolds before the reader with the turn of each page. Dismissed by her mother as "a struggling young architect" who was killed in a car accident and "left us penniless in the middle of the Great Depression," Domka Huculak kept the identity of the man who fathered her daughter a secret for 60 years until, at the age of 92, she finally disclosed the truth. This incredible, emotional revelation catapulted Paula into the past on an incredible quest that not only would change her life, but change how she would come to see herself.

Mysterious Builder of Seattle Landmarks available in print, eBook and Kindle via INGRAM SPARK or AMAZON -- Ask for it at your local bookstore! VIE Publishing

What People Say

He was Hans Pederson, one of the leading architects, contractors and builders in the American Northwest, whose far-reaching vision left a distinctive imprint on his adopted Seattle. Pederson helped define the personality of what has become the 18th largest city in the United States today.

But it is the author who we get to know best in a story that begins in Shanghai and ends in Maine. And it is the manner in which Paula tells her story that makes this book read like a long, newsy letter from a friend rather than a biography or more to the point, her autobiography. And this is precisely what makes this book so charming, and exceptional, and such an addictive read.

LAURIE BOGART MORROW, author

The Hardscrabble Chronicles

A fascinating glimpse behind the skyline of Seattle.

HUMAYUN MIRZA, author

From Plassey to Pakistan: the Family History of Iskander Mirza, the First President of Pakistan 2014

Paula has a most interesting and engaging book.

I very much like the way she has combined the general interest in Hans as prominent Seattle builder with the intense personal meaning that he has for her. Paula's depictions of her mother and others is nuanced and complex; she allows the reader, who grows indignant toward their behavior, to also understand and sympathize with them. Finally, the larger story of immigrants reads familiar with so many of us: in my own case, Swedes to Nebraska and then California, Germans to Nebraska and then Spokane. For my wife: Irish to Wisconsin, then Montana. There is no end to these particular stories, and now I can add Ukrainians to Alberta and Danes to Washington.

CRAIG DIETRICH, author

People's China: A Brief History

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